

## FLORIDA MELON CROP WAS SHORT

Cantaloupes and Watermelons Not So Plentiful as Heretofore.

### DRY WEATHER IS THE CAUSE

Crop Was Generally Short This Season Throughout Belt—Vegetables for Fall and Winter Will Be Extensively Grown This Year.

The Ocala correspondent of The New York Packer, the leading representative paper of the fruit and vegetable interests, makes the following resume of the situation in this section:

Ocala, the capital of old Marion county, located to be the capital of the State, is always one of the most interesting places to visit in the most tropical State in the Union. Ocala is thoroughly metropolitan and up-to-date and the improvements of the past year make this little city second to none of any size or location in the South. All its business streets are brick paved and its residence streets have the best of macadam and cement walks throughout. Ocala has two daily and weekly newspapers, The Banner and The Evening Star, up-to-date and progressive publications, also fine hotels and some of the best mercantile stores in the State.

Everyone knows the land in old Marion county is of the best in Florida, and as a result some of the best growers in the State live here. Many of The Packer readers are no doubt interested in this State and its products, and while Florida is generally credited with the production of tropical and semi-tropical products, yet many staples are grown here with entire success.

For example, Munroe & Chambliss are the leading bankers here, but Z. T. Chambliss & Co. are no doubt the most extensive and up-to-date farmers in Florida, owning the Palmetto Park farms here of 2,000 acres, C. B. Strickland manager, and 4,000 acres at Martin, Fla., C. B. Howell manager. These farms are a combination of fruit, vegetables and live stock. Shorthorn cattle are the leaders to the number of 100, with grade stock of 300 to 400 and many scrub or native cattle to breed up from, also hundreds of sheep and goats for purposes quite necessary on a ranch of this kind. This vast farm produces plenty of feed for all the stock and a surplus of corn and other grain for market. While "baby beef" and spring lamb are specialties from the live stock department, the cantaloupe crop this season was no doubt the largest on record in the State. Palmetto Park farms, Ocala, having 30 acres, from which were shipped 3,137 crates of fancy sizes; the Martin farms of 65 acres in cantaloupes shipped 8,156 crates, also large fancy sizes; very

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few ponies shipped from either place. These shipments are exclusive from other fields operated by croppers, of which there were many on this vast plantation. The Wilson Produce Co. of Pittsburg handled the bulk of this crop and satisfactory results is the pronounced verdict here. The writer had the pleasure of the season in an afternoon carriage ride with Z. C. Chambliss over this, the finest plantation of its kind in Florida, the Palmetto Park farms.

Other interested growers and business people here who read The Packer and appreciate its value include J. M. Livingston & Son, real estate dealers in farm and vegetable lands, orange grove properties and everything else in the real estate line. J. M. Livingston & Son are no doubt one of the largest and most reliable real estate companies in the Flowery State.

Martin & Carns are seed and produce dealers who supply most of the growers in this vicinity with seeds for all crops and seasons.

I. N. Wiggins grows vegetables for market, reads The Packer and will have beans for fall and winter shipment.

J. D. McDuffy is one of the large melon and cantaloupe growers here.

G. T. Liddon grows cants and a general crop of vegetables, and has a fine dairy farm from which Ocala gets much of its supplies in that line.

J. G. Goin grows vegetables in season. Other Packer readers are out of town, but will be reported as to crops later.

Sparr, Fla.—Sparr is one of the best vegetable sections in Florida and while this dry season has somewhat cut the crop, yet its growers are not discouraged and are universally prosperous in spite of conditions.

The growers and Packer readers here are W. Luffman of J. W. Colbert & Co., who are large growers of cantaloupes and watermelons, while W. Luffman & Bro. are general merchants, postmaster and all round business leaders in this section.

J. W. Johnson makes cantaloupes a special crop but grows other vegetables in season.

S. D. Souther makes cants a specialty but grows lettuce and other vegetables for the fall and spring market.

L. G. Young is a Packer reader who knows and appreciates its value. Mr. Young grows cantaloupes as a principal crop, with lettuce and other vegetables in season.

W. A. Nottage grows cants, tomatoes, cukes, beans and lettuce and will have lettuce for the fall and early winter market.

Many other Packer readers and growers here were not at home when the writer called, hence a small account of Sparr trade news.

Anthony, Fla.—Anthony is one of the largest cantaloupe growing and shipping stations in Florida and is noted for the fine quality produced. Not only has Anthony that reputation

## Y. M. C. A. TEAM DEFEATS INDEPENDENTS

Hotly Contested Game at the Ball Park Yesterday.

SCORE THIRTEEN TO FOUR

Honors Are Now Even With Them and They Propose to Have the Rub in the Near Future—Attendance Was Small.

Honors are now evened up with the Y. M. C. A. and the Independent teams, which played an interesting and exciting game at the ball park yesterday afternoon.

Several interesting and pretty plays were made on each side, but the errors, which were many, were on the side of the Independents, the playing of their opponents being far superior throughout the game.

While the attendance was larger than that of last Saturday, it was far from what it should have been from an encouraging standpoint, and the teams really deserve more patronage from our citizens.

Clark of the Y. M. C. A. did no fancy pitching but his work was effective, as he walked only four men and struck out five. His opponent, Summerlin of the Independents, walked four and struck out one in the same number of innings, and McNally had good control and issued only one pass in four innings.

The work of the two catchers, Summerlin and Baker, was all that could be desired, while Moseley, on short for the Independents, did pretty work.

The score by innings:  
Y. M. C. A. . . . 2 0 3 4 0 1 2 1 x—13  
Independents. . . 1 1 1 0 0 0 1 0—4

The third and deciding game of the series will be played sometime in the near future, when the championship will then be settled.

here, but throughout the market world, and while this season was not all that could be desired as to quantity, yet its reputation as to quality was unimpaired. Watermelons also are a staple product here, as well as vegetables of all kinds in season.

Among the growers here are the following: W. G. Smith, who grows cants, beans and other vegetables in season.

J. P. Jones makes a specialty of cantaloupes and tomatoes, but grows other stuff when the market looks favorable.

E. L. Howell, connected with Bender, Streibig & Co., Cincinnati, O., is no doubt the largest grower here, having this season shipped cantaloupes from 275 acres of that product and watermelons from 160 acres, both crops being a success, considering weather and market. Mr. Howell is an expert grower, packer, shipper and manager and his product is always of the best. R. A. Green, representing Bender, Streibig Co., is here at present, but will soon leave for more Northern points.

Other growers here who were out of town and whom The Packer man hopes to meet later are F. W. Ellison of F. W. Ellison & Bro., large cantaloupe and melon growers. F. W. Ellison is in Georgia inspecting peach orchards. Other Packer readers here who were out are C. W. Gates, J. D. Baskin, C. A. Preist, J. A. Lamb and Noah Green, all growers of cantaloupes, melons and other products.

### War Against Consumption.

All nations are endeavoring to check the ravages of consumption, the "white plague" that claims so many victims each year. Foley's Honey and Tar cures coughs and colds perfectly and you are in no danger of consumption. Do not risk your health by taking some unknown preparation when Foley's Honey and Tar is safe and certain in results. The genuine is in a yellow package. J. W. McCollum & Co.

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### AN EMINENT CHEMIST SAYS:

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A. M. CUSHMAN, Agent, Gainesville, Florida